CLAIMS (UNAMENDED)

Although not currently amended, the pending claims are reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience:

1-42. (Canceled).

43. (Previously Presented): A composition comprising rigid, substantially rectilinear polymeric fibers in a physiologically acceptable medium, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyurethanes, polyesters, acrylic polymers, polyolefins, non-aromatic polyamides, aromatic polyimide-amides, and mixtures thereof, and wherein at least 50%, in numerical terms, of the fibers are such that the angle formed between the tangent to the central longitudinal axis of the fiber at one of the ends of the fiber and the straight line connecting said end to the point on the central longitudinal axis of the fiber corresponding to half the length of the fiber, is less than or equal to 15°, and the angle formed between the tangent to the central longitudinal axis of the fiber at a point halfway along the fiber and the straight line connecting one of the ends to the point on the central longitudinal axis of the fiber corresponding to half the length of the fiber, is less than or equal to 15°, for the same length of fiber ranging from 0. 8 mm to 5 mm.

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44. (Canceled):

45. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 44, in which the angles are less than or equal to 10° .

46. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 43, in which the fibers are from 1 to 3 mm long.

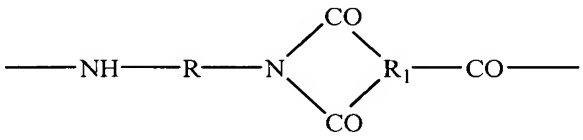
47. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 43, in which the cross section of the fibers is within a circle of diameter (D) ranging from 2 nm to 500 um.

48. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, in which the fibers have a length L and a diameter D of the circle in which the cross section of the fiber is inscribed, such that the ratio L/D is in the range from 3.5 to 2,500.

49. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, in which the fibers have a yarn count in the range from 0.15 to 30 denier.

50. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, in which the fibers are present in a content of from 0.01% to 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

51. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 43, in which the fibers are aromatic polyimide-amide fibers comprising a repeating unit of formula (I):

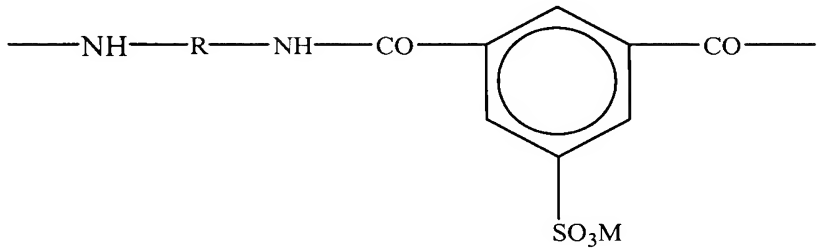


(I)

optionally, also, a repeating unit of formula (II):

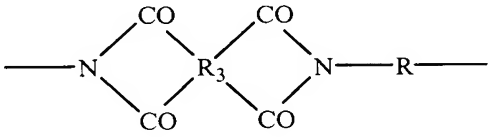
-NH-R-NH-CO-R_2-CO- (I I)

optionally, also, a repeating unit of formula (III):



(III)

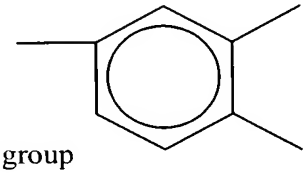
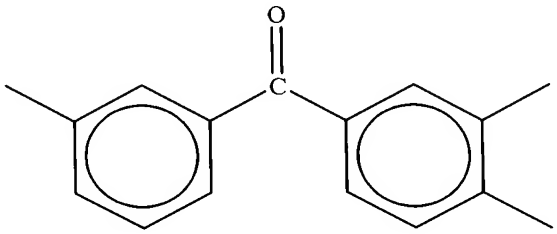
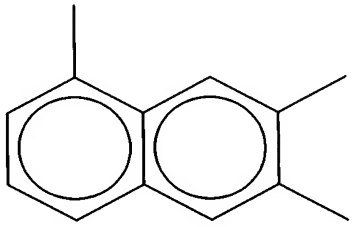
optionally, also, a repeating unit of formula (IV):



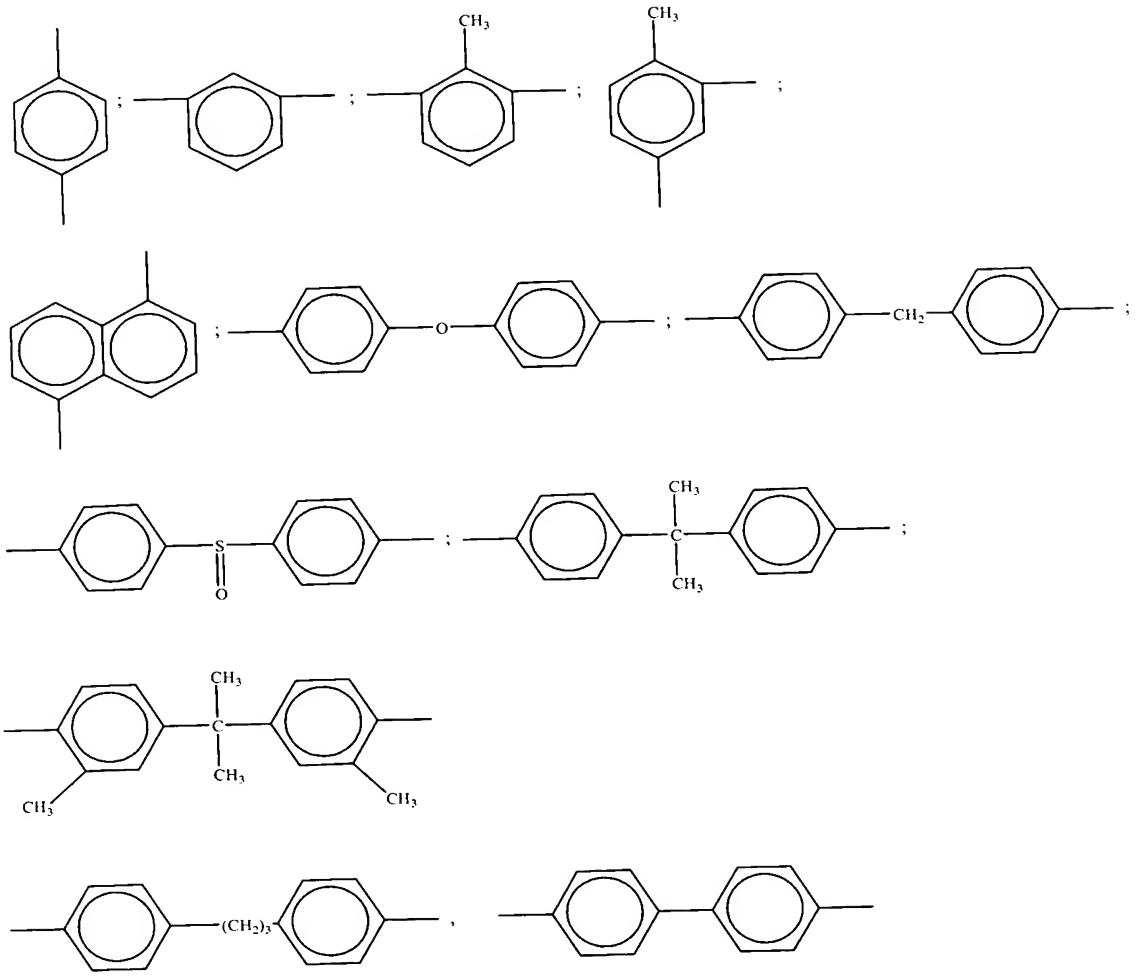
(IV)

in which R represents a divalent aromatic group, R_2 represents a divalent aromatic group, R_3 represents a tetravalent aromatic group, R_1 represents a trivalent aromatic group and M represents an alkali metal or alkaline-earth metal.

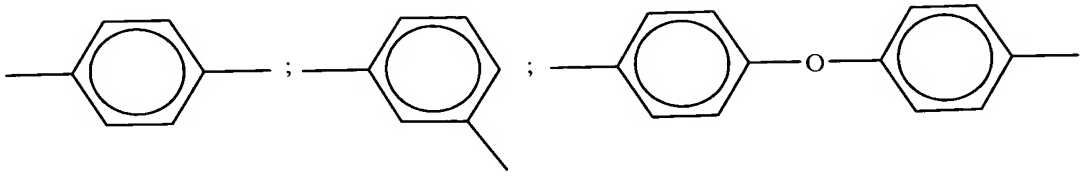
52. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 51, in which R_1 represents:

a group  , a group  , or a group 

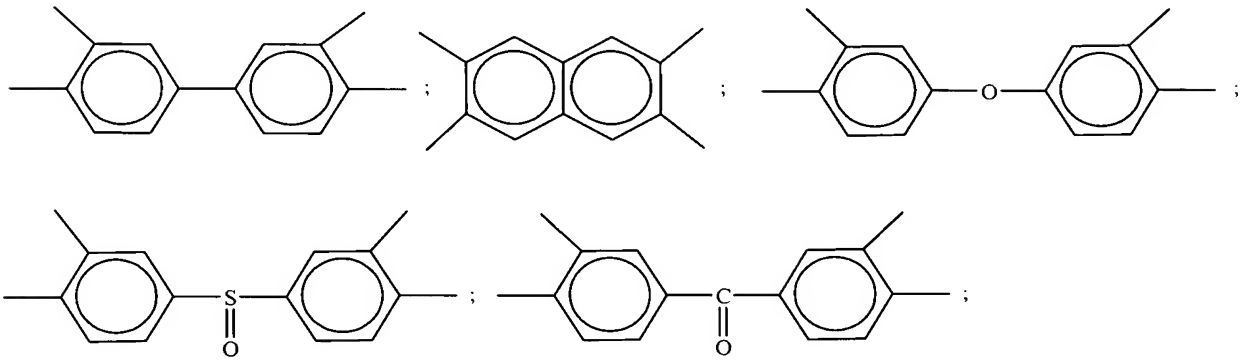
53. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 51, in which R is chosen from groups:



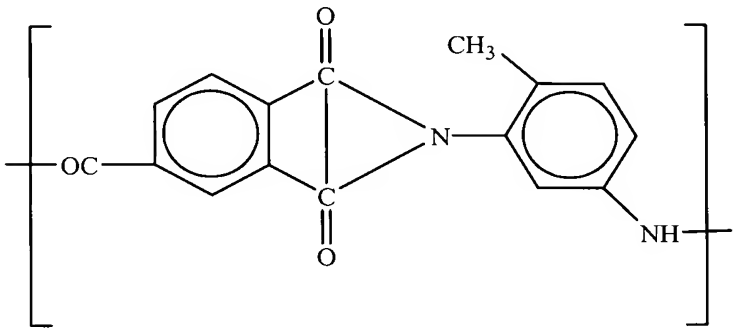
54. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 51, in which R2 is a group of formula:



55. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 51, in which R_3 is selected from the group consisting of :



56. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 51, in which the polyimide-amide is obtained by polymerization of tolylene diisocyanate and of trimellitic anhydride, and comprises repeating units of formula:



57. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 43, in which the fibers are surface-treated and/or coated.

58. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 43, in which an active agent and/or pigment and/or dye is incorporated into the bulk of the polymer forming the fibers.

59. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, in which the physiologically acceptable medium is a hydrophilic or lipophilic cosmetic medium.

60. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, further comprising water or a mixture of water and of hydrophilic organic solvent(s).

61. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 60, comprising a hydrophilic organic solvent(s) selected from the group consisting of monoalcohols containing from 2 to 5 carbon atoms, polyols containing from 2 to 8 carbon atoms, C_3-C_4 ketones, C_2-C_4 aldehydes, and mixtures thereof.

62. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 60, in which the water or the mixture of water and of hydrophilic organic solvent(s) is present in a content ranging from 0.1% to 90% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

63. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, which further comprises a fatty phase.

64. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 43, which is an anhydrous composition.

65. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 63, in which the fatty phase comprises a fatty substance selected from the group consisting of oils, organic solvents, waxes and pasty fatty substances, and mixtures thereof.

66. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 63, in which the fatty phase comprises at least one volatile oil.

67. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 66, in which the volatile oil is a hydrocarbon-based oil comprising from 8 to 16 carbon atoms.

68. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 66, in which the volatile oil is present in a content ranging from 0.1% to 98% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

69. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, further comprising a film-forming polymer.

70. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 69, in which the film-forming polymer is selected from the group consisting of vinyl polymers, polyurethanes, polyesters, polyamides, polyureas, cellulose-based polymers, and mixtures thereof.

71. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 69, in which the film-forming polymer is present in a polymer solids content ranging from 0.1% to 60% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

72. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, further comprising a dyestuff.

73. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 72, in which the dyestuff is selected from the group consisting of pigments, nacres, liposoluble dyes, water-soluble dyes, and mixtures thereof.

74. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 72, in which the dyestuff is present in a content ranging from 0.01% to 30% by weight, relative to the total weight of the composition.

75. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, further comprising a cosmetic additive selected from the group consisting of antioxidants, fillers, preserving agents, fragrances, neutralizers, thickeners, surfactants, cosmetic active agents, dermatological active agents, plasticizers, coalescers, and mixtures thereof.

76. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, which is a makeup composition, a makeup base, a top coat composition to be applied over a makeup, or a treatment or care composition for keratin materials or fibers.

77. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 43, which is a composition for coating the eyelashes, a composition to be applied over an eyelash makeup, or a composition for treating the eyelashes.

78. (Previously Presented): The composition according to Claim 43, which is a mascara.

79. (Previously Presented): A method of lengthening a keratin material, comprising applying the composition of Claim 43 to the keratin material in an amount sufficient to lengthen the keratin material.

80. (Previously Presented): The method of Claim 79, wherein the keratin material is an eyelash.

81. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 80, wherein said method provides a lengthening of the eyelashes that is exactly in line with them or to give the eyelashes an even lengthening effect.